



**SPECIAL MEETING
MINUTES
March 17, 2004, 4:00 P.M.
5th Floor Conference Room, City Hall**

Chairman Gardner called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

Roll Call

Present: Commissioners Brewer, Corral, Davidson (4:06), Gardner, Garcia, Huerta, Percy, and Ward
Alternate Quinto (4:45)

Absent: Commissioner O'Meara

Public Comments

Dr. Ron Bailey

Dr. Bailey said he had written an article and submitted it to the Press-Enterprise in response to Chairman Gardner's editorial letter regarding the Commission, but it wasn't published. Chairman Gardner said Dr. Bailey could read the article to the Commission. Dr. Bailey said that the Commission should be retained because the police are not willing to police themselves in an acceptable manner. He also said that the Commission doesn't have enough power to do what it needs to do.

Mr. Gallegos

Mr. Gallegos said he is interested in law enforcement and enrolled in the Citizens' Police Academy. He said he has had only positive experiences with Chief Leach.

Workshop

Mary Shelton

Ms. Shelton said she doesn't see the complaint system as only punishment but a chance for officers to look at their actions. She said it can be looked at as a way to deal with problems. She said the Commission is not expensive when you look at money saved in lawsuits. She said you can't have too many checks and balances. She also said she is disturbed by the City Attorney's lack of interest in the Commission.

Police Chief Russ Leach spoke to the Commission about communication between the CPRC and RPD. Chief Leach told the Commission that:

- he thinks shootings take too long to investigate
- he doesn't see anything wrong with giving the Commission periodic updates on OIDs
- CPRC has gone through three phases
 - Phase 1 – Commission worked hard making policy recommendations – some adopted, some not – but appreciates the process

- Phase 2 – a disconnect between Commission and RPD seemed to have developed; RPOA and others think the Commission is trying to stretch the ordinance
- Phase 3 – Commission wants to get communication back on track
- he thinks the Commission is here to stay but not his or any commissioners place to say
- the CPRC is the most vital commission and a city attorney should be sitting with the Commission at each meeting. He noted that he and the City Attorney disagree on this.
- over 100 new officers have been hired in the last three years, with an average age of 24; they need to be taught how to do things properly
- sergeants are now required to complete a daily log
- he reads rationales and looks at them as though it's the community asking the questions, talking to him
- charges are going to be filed against a citizen who filed a false complaint
- officers are seeing the benefits of using their recorders
- when necessary, discipline does occur
- many of the issues regarding RPOA are labor / management and political issues and as police chief, he can't get political – questions regarding RPOA should be asked of Pat McCarthy, RPOA President
- he disagrees that just because a sergeant is on-scene at an incident on which a complaint is based, that the sergeant becomes one of the subject officers and therefore shouldn't investigate the complaint
- the Commission should be more aggressive in its outreach; attend new officer initiation meetings, RPOA meetings

The Commission recessed from 5:15 – 5:23 p.m.

2003 Annual Report

The Commission discussed and revised the Trends and Patterns section of the 2003 Annual Report.

Closed Session – Case Reviews

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957, the Commission adjourned to Closed Session at 6:24 p.m. to review the following case(s) involving PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERSONNEL MATTERS:

<u>CPRC CASE NO.</u>	<u>IA CASE NO.</u>
03-077	PC-03-290-151
04-002	PC-04-011-093

The Commission adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


 PHOEBE SHERRON
 Sr. Office Specialist